

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to require their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. It's clearly an unfair benefit to a single political party - this is not very democratic.

What I find most troubling is the total lack of opportunity for rebuttal by the side being portrayed in this documentary. No one side of the political spectrum can lay claim to a truth without bias. That's obvious. But allowing such a blatant 'aiding' of one political party this close to an election without the requirement of equal representation by the opposing party ON PUBLIC AIRWAVES is a shame.

Thank you.
Robb Mills